

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 10-14 had been objected to as containing certain informalities, i.e. including the abbreviation "rsp." and also reciting "is" instead of "are." These informalities are corrected with the present amendment in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

The Examiner objects to claims 10-14 as listing reference numerals. In response thereto, the reference numerals are deleted from these claims.

Claim 10 is objected to as being confusing since it references claim 1 while not being in the format of a dependent claim. To avoid confusion, as suggested by the Examiner, the limitations of claim 1 have been added to claim 10. Reconsideration of these objections is therefore respectfully requested.

THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 10 had been rejected under Section 102(a) and (e) as being anticipated by Buchali (U.S. Publ. Appl. No. 2002/0060820). This rejection is respectfully

traversed in view of the claims as presently amended.

In the claim objections, the Examiner indicated that, to avoid confusion, the subject matter of claim 1 should be included into claim 10. It is respectfully pointed out that claim 1 was indicated allowable over the prior art. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. At any rate, it is respectfully submitted that since claim 10 now incorporates the features of claim 1, claim 10 is also allowable over the prior art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding grounds of rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0160, our Order No. COH-15008.

Respectfully submitted,

RANKIN, HILL, PORTER & CLARK LLP

By _____


Jay P. Ryan
Agent for Applicant
Registration No. 37,064

4080 Erie Street
Willoughby, Ohio 44094-7836
(216) 566-9700